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IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1-3, 6, 10-12, and 14-23, and add claim 24 as follows:

1. (Currently amended) A method of restoring an operational state of a computer entity, said computer entity comprising:

at least one data processor;

at least one data storage device;

a primary operating system capable of running said computer entity;

a secondary operating system capable of rebuilding said primary operating system; and

a known good, pristine copy of said primary operating system ~~in an as manufactured state; and~~

patch data representing a portion of code which replaces a portion of said primary operating system stored on said data storage device[[;]],

said method comprising the steps of:

booting said computer entity to operate from said secondary operating system; [[and]]

rebuilding, under control of said secondary operating system, rebuilding said primary operating system from said copy of said primary operating system; and

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applying said patch data to the rebuilt primary operating system.

2. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in Claim claim 1, further comprising the step of:

erasing said primary operating system prior to rebuilding said primary operating system from said copy of said primary operating system.

3. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in Claim claim 1, further comprising the step of:

restoring configuration settings of said computer entity from configuration data stored in a partition of said data storage device separate [[to]] from said primary operating system and secondary operating system.

4. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 3, wherein said configuration data comprises data describing one or more application settings for running an application on said computer entity.

5. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 3, wherein said configuration data comprises data selected from the set:

network configuration data describing a networking configuration of the computer entity;

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administration security data describing administration security settings applied to the computer entity;

installed user data describing installed users on the computer entity;

user settings data describing individual settings for at least one installed user on the computer entity; and

back-up schedule data describing a back-up schedule for backing up data of said computer entity.

6. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 3, further comprising the step of applying a CHECKsum to said configuration data prior to storing said configuration data in [[its]] said partition.

7. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 3, further comprising the step of:

checking said configuration data for corruption prior to restoring said configuration settings.

8. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising the step of:

restoring data describing default application settings used by at least one application program of said computer entity.

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9. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising the step of:

deleting application data generated by at least one application program of said computer entity.

10. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said boot of said secondary operating system is activated automatically under conditions selected from the following set:

a failure of said primary operating system; and

a failure of a boot from a partition of said data storage device including said primary operating system.

11. (Currently amended) [[The]] A method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising the step of restoring an operational state of a computer entity, said computer entity comprising:

at least one data processor;

at least one data storage device;

a primary operating system capable of running said computer entity;

a secondary operating system capable of rebuilding said primary operating system; and

a known good, pristine copy of said primary operating system stored on said data storage device;

said method comprising the steps of:

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booting said computer entity to operate from said secondary operating system;

under control of said secondary operating system,  
rebuilding said primary operating system from said pristine copy of  
said primary operating system; and

determining whether a rebuild of said primary operating system is triggered with application data deleted or with application data preserved by reading a plurality of settings flags.

12. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising the [[step]] steps of:

resetting said computer entity by rebooting from said secondary operating system;

deleting application data stored on a data storage device of said computer entities; and

recreating default application data on said data storage device.

13. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 12, further comprising the step of recreating default databases on said data storage device.

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14. (Currently amended) A computer entity comprising:

at least one data processor; and

at least one data storage device including:

(a) a primary operating system capable of running said computer entity;

(b) a secondary operating system capable of rebuilding said primary operating system during a failure of said primary operating system;

(c) a known good, pristine copy of said primary operating system ~~in an as manufactured state~~; and

(d) ~~configuration patch data describing representing a configuration portion of code for replacing a portion of said computer entity primary operating system~~; and

(e) an instruction set for applying said patch data to said primary operating system after said primary operating system is rebuilt by said secondary operating system.

15. (Currently amended) The computer entity as claimed in ~~claim~~ claim 14, wherein:

said primary operating system is stored in a first partition area of said data storage device;

said secondary operating system is stored in a second partition area of said data storage device;

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said copy of said primary operating system is stored in a third partition area of said data storage device; and

said configuration data is stored in a fourth partition area of said data storage device.

16. (Currently amended) The computer entity as claimed in claim 14, wherein said configuration data comprises data selected from the set:

[[a]] network configuration data describing a networking configuration of the computer entity;

[[an]] administration security data describing administration security settings applied to the computer entity;

[[an]] installed user data describing installed users on the computer entity;

user settings data describing individual settings for at least one installed user on the computer entity; and

back-up schedule data describing a back-up schedule for backing up data of said computer entity.

17. (Currently amended) The computer entity as claimed in claim 14, further comprising an administration interface configured to allow a manually activated trigger of a rebuild of said primary operating system.

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18. (Currently amended) The computer entity as claimed in ~~claim~~ claim 14, comprising an automatic trigger operable to detect when a fault occurs in said primary operating system, and upon detecting a fault in said primary operating system, triggering a boot from said secondary operating system.

19. (Currently amended) The computer entity as claimed in ~~claim~~ claim 14, wherein said data storage device comprises at least one disk drive.

20. (Currently amended) The computer entity as claimed in ~~claim~~ claim 14, which is devoid of a user console running directly from a said operating system of said computer entity.

21. (Currently amended) A method of running a computer entity, said computer entity comprising:

a data storage device divided into a plurality of partition areas;

a primary operating system stored on a first of said plurality of partition area areas; and

a secondary operating system stored on a second of said plurality of partition area areas;

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said method comprising the steps of:

storing as a back up copy a known good pristine copy of the primary operating system on a third of said plurality of partition area areas; and

storing patch data representing a portion of code which replaces a portion of said primary operating system on said third partition area.

22. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in ~~Claim~~ claim 21, further comprising the step of automatically updating configuration data stored in a fourth partition area of said data storage device.

23. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in ~~Claim~~ claim 22, wherein said configuration data comprises:

network configuration data describing a networking configuration of [[the]] said computer entity;

administration security data describing administration security settings applied to [[the]] said computer entity;

installed user data describing installed users on [[the]] said computer entity;

user settings data describing individual settings for at least one installed user on [[the]] said computer entity; and

back-up schedule data describing a back-up schedule for backing up data of said computer entity.

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24. (New) The method as claimed in claim 1, further including version checking the rebuilt primary operating system so that said patch data is only applied to said rebuilt primary operating system if the version of said rebuilt primary operating system is a version for which said patch data is intended.